AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. Please add new claims 12-20. Please cancel claim 11 without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for correcting a facial image displayed on a monitor, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

~~(a)~~ extracting pixels representing a plurality of specific areas from said facial image;

~~(b)~~ ~~determining~~ selecting a correction item to be performed out of plural correction items, each of said plural correction items corresponding to each of said plurality of specific areas;

~~(c)~~ detecting ~~the~~ a position of a cursor in said facial image displayed on said monitor; and

~~(d)~~ if a ~~pointed~~ pixel pointed to by said cursor is in one of said plurality of specific areas ~~area~~ corresponding to said correction item to be ~~executed~~ performed, subjecting said pointed to pixel to a correction process ~~that is set~~ in accordance with said corresponding correction item.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein one of said plural correction items ~~is~~ comprises skin color correction, wherein when said pointed to pixel is in a skin area and ~~the~~ a color of said pointed to pixel is outside of ~~the~~ a range of predetermined skin color, ~~the~~ a color of said pointed to pixel is corrected.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 2, wherein said

~~predetermined~~ skin color correction is selectable from plural colors.

4. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein one of said plural correction items ~~is~~ comprises red-eye color correction, wherein when said pointed to pixel is in an eye area and ~~the~~ a color of said pointed to pixel is red, the color of said pointed to pixel is corrected.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 4, wherein said pointed to pixel is corrected to a selected eye color.

6. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein one of said plural correction items ~~is~~ comprises teeth color correction, wherein when said pointed to pixel is in a teeth area and said pointed to pixel has a color out of a range of predetermined white, ~~the~~ a color of said pointed to pixel is corrected.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein one of said plural correction items ~~is~~ comprises hair color correction, wherein when said pointed to pixel is in a hair area and ~~the~~ a color of said pointed to pixel is white, the color of said pointed to pixel is corrected.

8. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein said pointed to pixel is corrected to ~~the~~ a same color as another pixel in said hair area.

9. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein one of said correction items ~~is~~ comprises hair color correction, and said pointed to pixel is corrected to a selected hair color.

10. (Currently Amended) A ~~program for~~ programmable storage medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform operations supporting correcting a facial image, ~~that is capable of causing a computer to perform~~ the operations comprising:

extracting pixels representing a plurality of specific areas from said facial image displayed on a monitor;

~~determining~~ selecting a correction item to be performed out of plural correction items, each of said plural correction items corresponding to each of said plurality of specific areas;

detecting ~~the~~ a position of a cursor in said facial ~~imag~~ image displayed on said monitor; and

if a ~~pointed~~ pixel pointed to by said cursor is in one of said plurality of specific areas ~~area~~ corresponding to said correction item to be ~~executed~~ performed, subjecting said pointed to pixel to a correction process ~~that is set~~ in accordance with said corresponding correction item.

11. (Canceled.)

12. (New) A method for correcting a facial image displayed on a monitor, said method comprising:

extracting pixels from a plurality of specific facial feature areas from said facial image based on facial features identified in said facial image;

providing a plurality of image correction items, each of said plurality of image correction items corresponding to each of said plurality of specific facial feature areas;

selecting one of said plurality of image correction items of said plurality of image correction items;

determining a corresponding one of said plurality of specific facial feature areas based on said selecting one of said plurality of image correction items;

detecting a position of a cursor in said facial image displayed on said monitor; and

correcting a pixel in said facial image in accordance with said selected one of said plurality of image correction items, said pixel corresponding to said position of said cursor when said position of said cursor is in said corresponding one of said plurality of specific facial feature areas.

13. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein said extracting pixels from said plurality of specific facial feature areas further comprises:

identifying said facial features in said facial image; and

dividing said facial image into said plurality of specific facial feature areas based on said identified facial features.

14. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein said identifying said facial features further comprises:

determining said facial features on a basis of geometric information comprising at

least one of facial feature size, a position of each specific facial feature area with respect to said facial image, and a distance between said specific facial feature areas.

15. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein said plurality of image correction items further comprises:

a skin color correction item;

an eye color correction item;

a teeth color correction item; and

a hair color correction item,

wherein each image correction items corresponds respectively to said plurality of specific facial features that further comprises:

a skin feature area;

an eye feature area;

a teeth feature area; and

a hair feature area.

16. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein said selecting one of said plurality of image correction items further comprises:

displaying a list of said plurality of image correction items.

17. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein said correcting said pixel further comprises:

comparing luminance Y and chromaticities Cb, Cr of said pixel with luminance Y'

and chromaticities Cb', Cr' of a predetermined target skin color, when said cursor is in a skin feature area and said selected one of said plurality of image correction items comprises a skin color correction item.

18. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein said correcting said pixel further comprises:

comparing luminance Y and chromaticities Cb, Cr of said pixel with luminance Y' and chromaticities Cb', Cr' of a predetermined target eye color, when said cursor is in an eye feature area and said selected one of said plurality of image correction items comprises an eye color correction item.

19. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein said correcting said pixel further comprises:

comparing luminance Y and chromaticities Cb, Cr of said pixel with luminance Y' and chromaticities Cb', Cr' of a predetermined target teeth color, when said cursor is in a teeth feature area and said selected one of said plurality of image correction items comprises a teeth color correction item.

20. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein said correcting said pixel further comprises:

comparing luminance Y and chromaticities Cb, Cr of said pixel with luminance Y' and chromaticities Cb', Cr' of a predetermined target hair color, when said cursor is in a hair feature area and said selected one of said plurality of image correction items comprises a hair

color correction item.